REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 12-16 and 18 are pending. Claims 2-10 and 16-18 are allowed. Reconsideration and allowance based on the below comments are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Troiano (U.S. 4,376,952); and claims 5-6 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Troiano in view of Nishino Kenji (JP No. 06-12195). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 12 each recite, *inter alia*, varying of a frequency characteristic of an image signal in a periodic manner. the Office Action has provided Troiano to teach this feature. Applicant respectfully submits that Troiano's teachings do not teach varying a frequency characteristic in the periodic manner. Troiano teaches an apparatus for automatically depeaking the luminance signal of a television receiver under high noise conditions. To accomplish this, Troiano applies a luminance signal to a luminance peaking circuit and to a peaking control signal generator. A control signal is then obtained and provided to the input of the luminance peaking circuit 20 in which the luminance peaking circuit varies the peaking of the luminance signal in accordance with the peaking control signal. Thus, a variably peaked output luminance signal is obtained by which the peak luminance signal is controlled. See col. 2, lines 41 through col. 3, line 21.

The Office Action asserts that the variably peaked output signal is the same as the periodic varying of the frequency characters of an input signal claimed by Applicant. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In Troiano, the peak luminance is random at best. The controlling of the peak luminance must be variable because it is determinative upon the random nature of the original peak luminance signal. This means there is no sequence or regular intervals of a predictive nature by which the peak luminance signal is controlled. Thus, it is purely random (variable).

In contrast, Applicant varies the frequency in a periodic manner. This means there is a periodicity. Therefore, the varying of the frequency occurs at regular predetermined intervals, which is predictive. This is not a random or variable response, as taught by Troiano.

Further, as recited in independent clam 2 for example, the frequency is once per spatial line in each temporal frame. Other dependent claims define different periodic intervals. Therefore, the periodic interval is constant and does not change based on a random peak signal as is done in Troiano.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Troiano fails to teach a control circuit receiving said image signal from said image signal processing circuit and varying a frequency characteristic of the image signal in the periodic manner as recited in claim 1 and periodically varying a frequency characteristic of the image signal by acting directly on the image signal, as recited in claim 12.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that Troiano fails to teach respective features of dependent claims 13 and 14. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Nishino Kenji has been provided to teach aspects of dependent claim 5, 6 and 15 and thus fail to teach features of independent claims 1 and 12.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 12 are not anticipated by Troiano. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

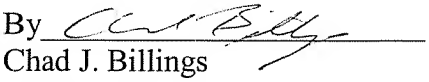
For at least the reasons above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-10, 12-16 and 18 are distinguishable over the cited art. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings Reg. No. 48,917 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 28, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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